

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Nema Berezny (Reg. No. 57,706) on April 6, 2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 10: Please replace claim 10 with the following claim language:

10. A computer-implemented method of capturing and treating content using a computer system having a processor, memory, and data storage subsystems, the computer-implemented method comprising:

setting a mode of operation to a content capture mode for interpreting user input for the purpose of selecting an on-screen region of a display, and receiving a path drawn by a user, the path defining boundaries of the selected on-screen region of the display, wherein pixels comprising one or more graphical elements representing a first set of one or more textual characters are displayed in the selected on-screen region;

capturing the pixels displayed within the selected on-screen region, and storing the captured pixels in an image file;

switching the mode of operation to an annotation mode in response to a user command;

receiving an annotation drawn by the user on the display, wherein the received annotation is implemented using a plurality of tools via a toolbar, the toolbar appearing after the selecting an on-screen region;

obtaining context information for the one or more graphical elements by automatically applying text recognition to the annotation, and storing the results of the text recognition as context information via the computer system, wherein certain context information comprises preventive measures that limit an association of history with the one or more graphical elements based upon digital rights management licenses, and

obtaining additional context information by extracting the first set of one or more textual characters and extracting a second set of textual characters displayed in proximity with the first set,

wherein the context information and the additional context information are automatically stored in association with the image file.

Claim 27: Please replace claim 27 with the following claim language:

27. A computer-implemented method of context harvesting from selected content using a computer system having a processor, memory, and data storage subsystems, the method:

receiving a path drawn on a display via user input, the drawn path defining boundaries of a selected on-screen region of the display, the selected on-screen region

comprising a plurality of pixels, wherein a displayed content of the selected on-screen region includes textual data and underlying data;

capturing the plurality of pixels and associated underlying text and associated links to embedded information of the on-screen region by capturing only complete characters or words;

storing the captured pixels as an image file;

automatically extracting a character or word from the textual data and extracting complete sentences based upon punctuation as context information in response to determining that the displayed content of the on-screen region includes the textual data via the computer system;

pointing a first pointer from the context information to the displayed content;

automatically extracting a property of the underlying data as additional context information in response to determining that the displayed content of the on-screen region includes the underlying data via the computer system, the property comprising at least one of: a file name, a file identifier, a uniform resource locator (URL), a uniform resource identifier (URI), a folder name, or meta-data;

determining a window associated with the selected on-screen region, and automatically extracting a uniform resource identifier (URI) from a name property or a value property of the window as additional context information;

pointing a second pointer from the additional context information to the displayed content; and

storing the extracted context information and additional context information in association with the image file via the data storage subsystem, such that the context information is accessible when viewing the image file.

Claim 28: Please replace claim 28 with the following claim language:

28. A computer-implemented method of context harvesting from selected content using a computer system having a processor, memory, and data storage subsystems, the method comprising:

- receiving a display of content comprising at least one of textual data, an executable object, a file, or a link to remote content;

- setting a mode of operation to a content capture mode;

- receiving a path drawn on the display which defines boundaries of a selected on-screen region of the content via user input;

- capturing and storing the selected content as an image file via the data storage subsystem;

- switching the mode of operation to an annotation mode;

- receiving an annotation on the display via the user input;

- performing text recognition on the received annotation as context information;

- pointing a first pointer from the selected content to the context information;

- automatically determining via the computer system that the content displayed within the on-screen region includes textual data and underlying data;

- automatically extracting as additional context information:

a character or word from the textual data of a bounded region determined to be included in the on-screen region, wherein the character or word that lies completely within the bounded region is extracted as additional context information, and the character or word that does not lie completely within the bounded region is not extracted as additional context information, and

a property of the underlying data determined to be included in the on-screen region, the property comprising at least one of: a file name, a file identifier, a uniform resource locator (URL), a uniform resource identifier (URI), a folder name, or meta-data; and

relating the selected content to the additional context information via a separate linking structure comprising identifying information;

pointing a second pointer from the selected content to the additional context information; and

storing the context information and the additional context information in association with the image file via the data storage subsystem, such that the context information is accessible when viewing the image file.

Claim 36: Please replace claim 36 with the following claim language:

36. The computer-implemented method of claim 10, further comprising:
navigating through the second sets of textual characters that reside within the path drawn by the user, and subsequently navigating through any sets of textual characters that reside outside the path drawn by the user.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
3. Regarding claim 10, the prior art fails to teach the combination of the claimed limitations. Zacks et al. (US 2004/0123131) teaches a image metadata processing system and method, in which he teaches preventing access to certain metadata (context) associated with an image (graphical element) (claims 16 and 17). However, Zacks and all other prior art fail to explicitly teach certain context information comprising preventive measures that limit an association of history with the one or more graphical elements based upon digital rights management licenses, in combination with the claimed setting, capturing, switching, receiving, and obtaining steps.
4. Regarding claim 27, the prior art fails to teach the combination of the claimed limitations. Oppermann (US 6,334,157) teaches obtaining a URI property as context information (col. 11 lines 1-9, 55-60, col. 12 lines 55-60, col. 13 lines 51-60). However, Oppermann and all other prior art fail to explicitly teach determining a window associated with the selected on-screen region, and automatically extracting a uniform resource identifier (URI) from a name property or a value property of the window as additional context information, in combination with the claimed receiving, capturing, storing, extracting and pointing steps.
5. Regarding claim 28, the prior art fails to teach the combination of the claimed limitations. Dawe (US 7,042,594) teaches determining if any handwriting lies within a region (col. 7 lines 11-16) and Bayiates (US 7,467,134) teaches a option of including

only text that is completely within a region or including all text that intersects a region (col. 10 lines 53-55). However, Dawe and Bayiates and all other prior art fail to explicitly teach automatically extracting as additional context information a character or word from the textual data of a bounded region determined to be included in the on-screen region, wherein the character or word that lies completely within the bounded region is extracted as additional context information, and the character or word that does not lie completely within the bounded region is not extracted as additional context information, in combination with the claimed receiving, setting, capturing, switching, performing, pointing, determining, extracting, relating and storing steps.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALICIA M. LEWIS whose telephone number is (571)272-5599. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9 - 6:30, alternate Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on 571-272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Alicia M Lewis/
Examiner, Art Unit 2164
April 6, 2011